



## ***Cardamine concatenata* - Toothwort**

COMMON NAME: Toothwort, Pepperwort

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Cardamine concatenate* – the name refers to a spice and the second part to “linking together” as referring the leaf. It is also given *Dentaria laciniata* as its scientific name where *dentaria* refers to the toothed rhizomes and *laciniata* to the divided leaf.

FLOWER: White

BLOOMING PERIOD: Mid to late April, one of the earliest spring flowers.

SIZE: 6 to 12 inches tall

BEHAVIOR: Spreads slowly by itself or can be propagated by rootstock division.

SITE REQUIREMENTS: Medium to wet woods. Prefers slightly acid or neutral humus-rich loam.

NATURAL RANGE: Throughout Wisconsin, especially southern and central parts of the state. Western Quebec and Vermont west to Minnesota, Nebraska and eastern Kansas, south to Florida and Louisiana.

SPECIAL FEATURES: The short flower stalk has a terminal cluster of four-petaled flowers above a whorl of deeply divided leaves.

SUGGESTED CARE: Plant in moderately acid soil, providing moisture in spring if dry. Cover with a light layer of leaves in winter.

COMPANION PLANTS: Sugar maple, white ash, red oak, basswood and American elm trees. Wild gooseberry, common elderberry, white baneberry, spring beauty, Dutchman’s breeches, white trout lily, wild geranium, hepatica, sweet cicily, wild blue phlox, prairie trillium and smooth yellow violet.